

(i) The entity was selected by DoD as a contractor to develop or construct the system or element concerned through the use of competitive procedures; and

(ii) DoD took appropriate steps to prevent any organizational conflict of interest in the selection process; or

(2) The entity was selected by a sub-contractor to serve as a lower-tier sub-contractor, through a process over which the entity exercised no control.

(c) In accordance with Section 802 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (Pub. L. 110-181), DoD may award a new contract for lead system integrator functions in the acquisition of a major system only if—

(1) The major system has not yet proceeded beyond low-rate initial production; or

(2) The Secretary of Defense determines in writing that it would not be practicable to carry out the acquisition without continuing to use a contractor to perform lead system integrator functions and that doing so is in the best interest of DoD. The authority to make this determination may not be delegated below the level of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics. (*Also see* 209.570-3(b).)

(d) Effective October 1, 2010, DoD is prohibited from awarding a new contract for lead system integrator functions in the acquisition of a major system to any entity that was not performing lead system integrator functions in the acquisition of the major system prior to January 28, 2008.

[73 FR 1824, Jan. 10, 2008, as amended at 74 FR 34268, July 15, 2009]

209.570-3 Procedures.

(a) In making a responsibility determination before awarding a contract for the acquisition of a major system, the contracting officer shall—

(1) Determine whether the prospective contractor meets the definition of “lead system integrator”;

(2) Consider all information regarding the prospective contractor’s direct financial interests in view of the prohibition at 209.570-2(a); and

(3) Follow the procedures at PGI 209.570-3.

(b) A determination to use a contractor to perform lead system integrator functions in accordance with 209.570-2(c)(2)—

(1) Shall specify the reasons why it would not be practicable to carry out the acquisition without continuing to use a contractor to perform lead system integrator functions, including a discussion of alternatives, such as use of the DoD workforce or a system engineering and technical assistance contractor;

(2) Shall include a plan for phasing out the use of contracted lead system integrator functions over the shortest period of time consistent with the interest of the national defense; and

(3) Shall be provided to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives at least 45 days before the award of a contract pursuant to the determination.

[74 FR 34268, July 15, 2009]

209.570-4 Solicitation provision and contract clause.

(a) Use the provision at 252.209-7006, Limitations on Contractors Acting as Lead System Integrators, in solicitations for the acquisition of a major system when the acquisition strategy envisions the use of a lead system integrator.

(b) Use the clause at 252.209-7007, Prohibited Financial Interests for Lead System Integrators—

(1) In solicitations that include the provision at 252.209-7006; and

(2) In contracts when the contractor will fill the role of a lead system integrator for the acquisition of a major system.

209.571 Organizational conflicts of interest in major defense acquisition programs.

209.571-0 Scope of subpart.

This subpart implements section 207 of the Weapons System Acquisition Reform Act of 2009 (Pub. L. 111-23).

[75 FR 81913, Dec. 29, 2010]

209.571-1 Definitions.

As used in this section—

“Lead system integrator” is defined in the clause at 252.209-7007, Prohibited

209.571-2

Financial Interests for Lead System Integrators.

“Major Defense Acquisition Program” is defined in 10 U.S.C. 2430.

“Major subcontractor” is defined in the clause at 252.209-7009, Organizational Conflict of Interest—Major Defense Acquisition Program.

“Pre-Major Defense Acquisition Program” means a program that is in the Materiel Solution Analysis or Technology Development Phases preceding Milestone B of the Defense Acquisition System and has been identified to have the potential to become a major defense acquisition program.

“Systems engineering and technical assistance.”

(1) “Systems engineering” means an interdisciplinary technical effort to evolve and verify an integrated and total life cycle balanced set of system, people, and process solutions that satisfy customer needs.

(2) “Technical assistance” means the acquisition support, program management support, analyses, and other activities involved in the management and execution of an acquisition program.

(3) “Systems engineering and technical assistance”—

(i) Means a combination of activities related to the development of technical information to support various acquisition processes. Examples of systems engineering and technical assistance activities include, but are not limited to, supporting acquisition efforts such as—

- (A) Deriving requirements;
 - (B) Performing technology assessments;
 - (C) Developing acquisition strategies;
 - (D) Conducting risk assessments;
 - (E) Developing cost estimates;
 - (F) Determining specifications;
 - (G) Evaluating contractor performance and conducting independent verification and validation;
 - (H) Directing other contractors’ (other than subcontractors) operations;
 - (I) Developing test requirements and evaluating test data;
 - (J) Developing work statements (but see paragraph (ii)(B) of this definition).
- (ii) Does not include—
- (A) Design and development work of design and development contractors, in

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accordance with FAR 9.505-2(a)(3) or FAR 9.505-2(b)(3), and the guidance at PGI 209.571-7; or

(B) Preparation of work statements by contractors, acting as industry representatives, under the supervision and control of Government representatives, in accordance with FAR 9.505-2(b)(1)(ii).

[75 FR 81913, Dec. 29, 2010]

209.571-2 Applicability.

(a) This subsection applies to major defense acquisition programs.

(b) To the extent that this section is inconsistent with FAR subpart 9.5, this section takes precedence.

[75 FR 81913, Dec. 29, 2010]

209.571-3 Policy.

It is DoD policy that—

(a) Agencies shall obtain advice on major defense acquisition programs and pre-major defense acquisition programs from sources that are objective and unbiased; and

(b) Contracting officers generally should seek to resolve organizational conflicts of interest in a manner that will promote competition and preserve DoD access to the expertise and experience of qualified contractors. Accordingly, contracting officers should, to the extent feasible, employ organizational conflict of interest resolution strategies that do not unnecessarily restrict the pool of potential offerors in current or future acquisitions. Further, contracting activities shall not impose across-the-board restrictions or limitations on the use of particular resolution methods, except as may be required under 209.571-7 or as may be appropriate in particular acquisitions.

[75 FR 81913, Dec. 29, 2010]

209.571-4 Mitigation.

(a) Mitigation is any action taken to minimize an organizational conflict of interest. Mitigation may require Government action, contractor action, or a combination of both.

(b) If the contracting officer and the contractor have agreed to mitigation of an organizational conflict of interest, a Government-approved Organizational Conflict of Interest Mitigation